

Opinion Divided On Police Chief Requirements

Diverse views concerning the town's next Chief of Police were heard last Tuesday night at the public hearing sponsored by the Police Chief selection Committee.

Chairman Rev. John Benbow requested both the spoken and written ideas of the 35 residents in attendance. He explained that the committee's concern was for the selection of a future police chief, noting that Police Chief Randolph Feola expects to re-

tire in July 1980.

Most agreed that formal training of some kind should be a consideration for a police chief candidate although there was no consensus on the desirability of formal educational qualifications such as a bachelor's degree in criminal justice or public administration.

The question of law enforcement experience drew more agreement. Some citizens felt that experience on the job,

especially as a supervisor of other officers, was more important than education.

Several opinions regarding the selection of a chief from inside or outside the department were presented. There was agreement that no possible source which yielded a good candidate would be ruled out.

There was also substantial agreement that the future chief should reside in the community. One person felt such a requirement would weight the selection process in favor of men on the force, and

suggested that if a person from out-of-town were chosen, a residency requirement within one year of employment could be established.

It was unanimously upheld, however, that police chiefs have a 24 hours a day job and have to be available immediately at any hour of the day or night.

Among the personal qualities proposed by those attending the hearing included the following abilities: to communicate well with the department and the community; to relate well to people, especial-

ly the young; to be sober, intelligent, and worthy of respect; to exhibit responsiveness, honesty, integrity and fairness. One resident suggested the term "gentleperson" to describe the ideal chief of police.

The meeting concluded with a request by some residents to have another opportunity to provide ideas to the committee. The committee agreed to do so, and invited residents to write their concern and expectations in letters, or to attend any of the committee's meetings.

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OPENING DAY ceremonies marking the start of the Little League season find, from left: Kristen O'Brien, Doug Mantz, Dan Curran, Troy Chatterton, Billy Sergeant and Jim Staunton in charge of traditional flag-raising. [Greg Derr photo]

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CHS College Admission Night May 9

Cohasset High School will hold its annual College Admissions Meeting at 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, in CHS cafeteria. The workshop will be conducted by the high school guidance staff and an

admissions counselor from Boston College.

The topics for discussion will be an explanation of the College Boards program, selection of a college and the steps in the admissions process. This will be followed by a presentation by Tim Plunkett

of three hypothetical candidates for admission to Boston College.

The program will conclude with a brief question and answer period. All Juniors and their parents are invited to attend.

Social Service League To Hold Annual Meeting May 9

The Social Service League of Cohasset, Inc. will hold its Annual Meeting in conjunction with a meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee this year.

The combined meeting will be held Wednesday, May 9, at 8 p.m. in the living room of the

Unitarian Parish House.

Carolyn Davis, executive director from the Massachusetts Association of Community Health Agencies (MACHA) will speak on the effect of new Medicare/Medicaid regulations on our agency.

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